



MI-CW4010

Michigan Crop Weather

October 4, 2010

First Frost

Five days were suitable for fieldwork during the week ending October 3, according to the USDA, NASS, Michigan Field Office. Precipitation ranged from 0.29 inches to 0.32 inches in the Upper Peninsula and varied from 0.18 inches to 1.14 inches in the Lower Peninsula. Temperatures in the Upper Peninsula averaged 1 degree below normal, while temperatures in the Lower Peninsula ranged from 2 to 4 degrees below normal. It was another cool and windy week with scattered precipitation. There was a report of having the first frost over the weekend in the Upper Peninsula, and reports of very light scattered frost in the Lower Peninsula. Harvest of crops continued, along with winter wheat planting, and fall plowing. Some fall manure hauling began.

Field Crops

Harvesting of field crops continued in mid to southern counties while harvest began in counties farther north. Progress remained ahead of normal pace. “Most of the crops will be harvested and in the bin or storage by the end of the month,” one reporter indicated, “**Corn** is drying down and some was being picked for high moisture cattle feed” said another reporter from Emmet County. Signs of lodging slowed harvest and reduced yield potential in Gratiot and Saginaw Counties. Overall, corn harvest progress was considerably ahead of average. **Soybean** harvest began in counties along Lake Michigan and was going well. Farmers in southeastern counties continued to be well ahead of normal. **Wheat** seed was planted as soon as possible after soybeans were harvested. **Dry Bean** harvest was wrapping up, and **sugarbeets** continued to be harvested on an “as needed” basis.

Fruit

Apple harvest continued. Honeycrisp harvest has ended. Cortland, Empire, Jonathan, and Red and Golden Delicious continued to be harvested. Idared harvest has begun in the west central; harvest of Northern Spy has started in the southeast and west central. Fruit color continued to improve in the southeast and northwest. Harvest of juice **grapes** has ended. Harvest of fall **raspberries** continued.

Vegetables

Cooler temperatures slowed development of warm season vegetables in the southeast while frost in the southwest brought production of these crops to an end. Growers continued to remove stakes, black plastic and drip tape in preparation for planting of fall cover crops. Crops harvested included: **pumpkins, gourds, hard squash, carrots, winter squash, yellow squash, zucchini** for fresh and processing, **cucumbers for pickles, potatoes, snap beans, peppers, cool season crops, and tomatoes** for fresh and processing. Wholesale pumpkin harvest was all but complete, throughout Michigan, with growers beginning direct sales. Pumpkins were of excellent quality, but smaller than average size. Quality of cool season crops was high. Sweet corn, peppers, snap beans, and tomatoes were still available in the Macomb County area.

Soil moisture for week ending 10/03/10

Stratum	Very short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Topsoil	5	14	72	9
Subsoil	5	29	63	3

Crop condition for week ending 10/03/10

Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
All Hay	1	4	25	49	21
Corn	2	6	16	45	31
Pasture	1	14	29	44	12
Soybeans	3	7	20	45	25

Crop progress for week ending 10/03/10

Crop	This week	Last week	Last year	5-year average
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
All hay, third cutting	91	88	86	90
All hay, fourth cutting	59	49	41	40
Apples, harvested	77	62	38	51
Corn, mature	96	90	35	73
Corn, harvested	30	19	2	10
Dry beans, harvested	89	76	55	65
Potatoes, harvested	47	37	47	54
Soybeans, dropping leaves	96	86	74	85
Soybeans, harvested	35	17	3	17
Sugarbeets, harvested	28	21	11	10
Winter wheat, planted	39	19	26	31

Michigan Weather Summary for Week Ending 10/03/10 ¹												
Station	Temperature			Cumulative growing degree days ²			Precipitation					
	Maximum	Minimum	Departure from normal	2010	2009	Normal	This week	Last two weeks	Last four weeks	Since April 1	Normal	
											Since April 1	For month
Ironwood	71	31		2,222	1,843		0.28	3.05	5.23	25.12		
Marquette	68	34		2,149	1,698		0.60	3.32	5.90	25.54		
Stephenson	72	31		2,561	2,082		0.07	2.59	4.46	24.30		
Western UP	73	23	-1	2,233	1,784	1,927	0.29	3.12	5.80	25.47	20.27	2.57
Cornell	65	32		2,389	1,930		0.29	2.63	5.37	23.01		
Sault St Marie	65	32		2,266	1,716		0.20	3.53	6.22	21.79		
Eastern UP	70	27	-1	2,197	1,704	1,704	0.32	2.67	5.52	24.80	19.18	2.57
Beulah	68	35		2,688	2,131		0.62	3.20	4.49	21.26		
Lake City	68	30		2,520	2,018		0.53	1.33	3.22	24.69		
Old Mission	68	38		2,580	2,016		0.10	2.29	3.86	20.85		
Pellston	66	25		2,424	1,894		0.08	2.33	4.49	23.20		
Northwest	68	25	-2	2,506	1,966	2,207	0.27	2.05	3.46	20.27	18.42	2.75
Alpena	68	39		2,499	2,004		0.11	2.60	3.86	21.25		
Houghton Lake	68	30		2,651	2,039		0.11	0.53	2.11	19.20		
Rogers City	66	38		2,342	1,961		0.19	3.26	4.55	25.50		
Northeast	69	30	-3	2,527	1,994	2,135	0.18	2.02	3.48	22.52	18.23	2.40
Fremont	71	34		2,877	2,315		0.40	1.10	3.26	16.56		
Hart	68	34		2,762	2,180		0.14	0.28	1.41	19.74		
Muskegon	73	39		3,189	2,523		0.48	1.07	3.14	21.48		
West Central	73	32	-3	2,884	2,296	2,415	0.39	0.93	2.86	19.60	18.41	2.94
Alma	72	37		2,950	2,363		0.54	0.96	2.10	22.12		
Big Rapids	73	33		2,767	2,186		0.44	1.00	2.36	22.92		
Central	73	33	-3	2,852	2,269	2,492	0.43	0.83	2.04	19.48	19.20	2.59
Bad Axe	70	41		2,807	2,220		0.97	1.89	3.21	22.04		
Pigeon	70	41		2,770	2,188		0.90	1.80	2.86	17.33		
Saginaw	72	38		3,087	2,436		0.62	0.95	1.93	17.42		
Standish	70	37		2,715	2,167		0.77	1.46	2.67	23.55		
East Central	72	37	-3	2,808	2,251	2,503	1.08	1.82	3.01	20.23	17.08	2.41
Fennville	71	36		2,986	2,394		0.00	0.13	3.55	27.99		
Grand Rapids	73	37		3,284	2,656		0.37	0.73	2.38	24.88		
Holland	72	39		3,262	2,750		0.01	0.67	3.21	34.70		
South Bend, IN	74	36		3,355	2,802		0.12	0.59	1.27	22.25		
Watervliet	73	35		3,170	2,587		0.20	0.57	2.03	22.17		
Southwest	75	32	-4	3,155	2,601	2,731	0.21	0.69	2.37	24.39	19.73	2.99
Belding	73	35		2,885	2,330		0.34	0.98	2.66	19.75		
Coldwater	75	36		3,192	2,675		0.01	0.02	0.18	18.14		
Lansing	72	38		3,172	2,506		0.53	0.87	4.17	19.15		
South Central	75	34	-4	3,035	2,475	2,680	0.48	0.76	2.97	22.08	19.23	2.41
Detroit	74	44		3,417	2,879		1.27	1.59	3.48	22.82		
Flint	73	40		3,138	2,464		1.45	1.65	3.21	17.74		
Romeo	73	42		2,999	2,468		2.31	2.56	3.99	17.60		
Tipton	73	38		3,077	2,566		0.65	0.83	2.33	24.29		
Toledo, OH	75	40		3,398	2,874		0.96	0.99	1.89	23.38		
Southeast	77	34	-4	3,132	2,642	2,678	1.14	1.29	2.56	21.32	18.28	2.33

¹ Issued by the USDA, NASS, Michigan Field Office in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Commerce, Michigan State University Cooperative Extension Service, Agricultural Meteorologist, Department of Geography, and Crop Advisory Team ALERTS.

² Growing degree days (GDD) is the sum of daily mean temperatures minus 50 per day, 86 maximum and 50 minimum. The GDD is accumulative from April 1.